

# The Pocahontas Times.

Andrew & Norman Price, Owners.

"Montani Semper Liberi!"

Andrew Price, Editor

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## Biographic Notes.

AMONG the persons who have been identified with our county history, the Cochran relationship claim recognition. For more than a hundred years the name has been a familiar one. The Pocahontas Cochrans are the descendants of Thomas Cochran, senior, a native of Ireland, one of three brothers who came over together. One of these brothers settled in Augusta county, and his descendants are highly respected in that county. Another of these Cochrans went to Kentucky, it is believed.

Thomas Cochran, the subject of this memoir, married a Miss MacKemie, near Parnassus in Augusta county, and settled first at the Rankin place, on the Greenbrier, near the mouth of Locust Creek. Thence he moved to the place now held by Colonel J. W. Ruckman and son Mathews. The relationship is so widely extended that it is only possible to trace his descendants to a degree where the present generation can take up the line and complete it.

By the first marriage there were three daughters and two sons.

One daughter, name not known, became Mrs William Carraway, and lived on Muddy Ceeek, Greenbrier county.

Nancy, a daughter of the pioneer, became Mrs Masters, and went to Ohio.

Mary, the third daughter, was married to William Aldridge, Sr., whose memoirs have been published in The Times.

John Cochran married Elizabeth (Betsy) James, daughter of David James, senior, at end of Dr Marvin Mountain, and settled near Marvin on property recently occupied by Michael Scales. There were four sons and four daughters.

David James Cochran married a Miss Corby, in Augusta county, and went to Clay county, W. Va. His son, William Cochran, represented that county in the legislature a few years since.

Thomas Cochran, son of John Cochran, married Miss Skeene, and lived near Marvin. Their children were Franklin, America, Elizabeth, and Harriet, now Mrs T. C. Woodell.

There were two other sons, William and John, about whom we have no information.

As to the daughters, Margaret (Peggy) became Mrs Jacob Shue; Sally became Mrs James Waugh, late of Verdant Valley; Fannie became Mrs John Smith, on Stony Creek; and Elizabeth.

Thomas Cochran, junior, son of the pioneer, married Mary Salisbury, settled on the side of Droop Mountain near Locust, and finally went west. Their children were Gordon, Robert, William, Richard, Deemie, and Sabrie,—two daughters and four sons.

Thomas Cochran, the pioneer's second marriage was with Nellie James, daughter of David James, senior, already mentioned. The fruit of this marriage seven sons and three daughters, viz: William, Samuel, Isaac, David, Solomon, James, Jesse, Rebecca, Mary, and Nellie.

Rebecca's first marriage was with William Salisbury, on Droop Mt. By her second marriage she became Mrs John Burner, and lived in Ohio.

Mary was married to William Cochran.

Nellie was married to John James, and went to Ohio. Her children were Jane, Eliza, Katie, David, William, and John James.

Samuel Cochran went to Ohio.

Isaac Cochran married Jennie Salisbury, daughter of William Salisbury, who lived near where Richard Callison now lives. His children were Elisha, Solomon, Salisbury, Lewis Presley, Jackson, Bruffey, Margaret, and Sarah. Two of these sons, Elisha and Solomon, are mentioned in the memoirs of Thomas McNeill, of Swago.

David Cochran, son of Thomas senior, married Sarah Salisbury

and lived near Droop Mountain. His children were John, William, Andrew, Biddie, Susan, and Mary. Biddie became Mrs Gabriel Underwood; Susan Mrs Joseph Rodgers, late of Swago; and Nellie was the first wife of the late Anthony Lightner, on Swago.

John Cochran first married Miss Hanna, of Greenbrier; second marriage with Sally Smith.

Andrew Cochran married Miss Rachel Lewis, and lived on Sinking Creek.

Solomon Cochran, of Thomas the pioneer, married Biddie Salisbury. Their children were Sallie, Rebecca, Porter, William, and George. Sallie died in youth; Rebecca became Mrs Bruffey Cochran; William Cochran married Almira Salisbury, in Braxton county, and went to Illinois; George Cochran married Nancy, daughter of John Cochran, and lives at the end of Droop Mountain.

James Cochran married Nancy Hannah, daughter of Dr David Hannah, on the Greenbrier, and lived at the end of Droop. Their family six daughters and four sons: David, William, Joseph, James, Elizabeth, who became Mrs Andrew Mealy; Jennie, Mrs William Clendennin, near Hillsboro, recently deceased; Nellie, Mrs Asher Hogsett; Eveline, Mrs Isaac Bull; Mary and Rachel.

Jesse Cochran married Jane James, and settled at the end of Droop on property owned by his son, David J. Cochran. Their children were David James, Thomas, Samuel, Clark, and George Brown.

David married Hannah Duffield, and lives on the homestead.

Thomas settled on the homestead upon his marriage with Nancy Stearns

Clark married Sally Underwood, daughter of Gabriel Underwood, and lives on the James homestead.

George B. married Martha E. Heggingsworth, of Boston, and lives on a section of the homestead.

William Cochran, of Thomas the progenitor, first married Jane Young, near Swago. Her children were Washington and Elizabeth.

Washington Cochran married Phebe Mace, of Mingo, and settled on Stony Creek. Himself, wife, and son John, aged 7, all died during the war.

Elizabeth Cochran became Mrs George Young. Mr Young died in Richmond during the war. His sons William and Washington live in Iowa. Mrs Young became Mrs Bruffey Cochran, went to Iowa, where she recently died.

Captain William Cochran's second marriage was with Melinda Moore, daughter of the late Aaron Moore, on the Greenbrier. Her children William Cochran, junior, and Catherine, now Mrs Giles Sharp.

Captain Cochran was a busy man of affairs, noted as a skillful blacksmith, and built the first tilt-hammer on Swago. He was Captain of the Stony Creek militia, superintended the construction of the Warm Springs and Huntersville turnpike, and was superintendent of the Lewisburg and Marlinton Bottom road. The Captain also took much interest in church affairs as a prominent layman of the M. P. church.

David James, senior, so frequently mentioned in this paper, was an early settler at the end of Droop, and came from Norfolk, Virginia. He first settled near where Richard Callison lives, moved thence to the Ben Irvine place where he built a mill, one of the stones yet to be seen near the roadside at the "Rocky Turn." He then moved to the place now occupied by George Cochran. The house is yet standing where he died at the age of one hundred and four years.

William Salisbury, a native of England, settled at the Salisbury place, near Locust. The building he erected still remains in a good state of preservation. It was designed for a fort, but was never

used as such.

The James and Salisbury families have been virtually absorbed by the Cochrans. The James boys went to Ohio, and the Salisbury men settled in Braxton and other places in West Virginia, and some went finally to Ohio.

The writer in closing this paper would gratefully recognize the assistance of David J. Cochran, Esq., that was "so helpful in collecting the particulars, and so cheerfully given by him, altho suffering at the time so severely from rheumatic and other troubles, that seemed to be wearing his useful life away.

W. T. P.

## "CROWING HENS."

To the Editor of The Times:—Will you please state through the columns of your paper where in the Bible the term "crowing hen" is found, in case it is in the Bible, and thus settle a dispute. J. D. R. MARLINTON, W. VA.

The word hen occurs but twice in the Bible, strange to say, as the bird was common in Palestine. Once in Mathew xxiii. 37, where the beautiful passage occurs: "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathers her chickens under her wings, and ye would not"; and in Luke xii. 34, the same language is used, with the word "brood" instead of "chickens."

The name Hen occurs once in the Bible. In Zechariah vi. 14 we read of "Hen, the son of Zephaniah," but the record does not show whether he was disposed to crow or not.

Upon good authority we can say that the term "crowing hens" does not occur in the Bible, and it is from a proverb in daily use, like "you may take an ox to water but you cannot make him drink," which some people say is in the Bible. The expression "hen's-teeth" has been attributed to the Bible, but it is not found therein.

Along this same line of mistakes as to what the bible contains is the well known account of an old dorker who preached from Psalm xvi. 33: "He maketh my feet like hinds' feet, and setteth me upon my high places." The dorker went by the the sound and delivered a sermon on the text transposed: "He maketh my feet like hen's feet," etc. "Yes, my brudder, observe de hen when sho roos' on de high place how she clamp de pole wif her feet, an de sounder she sleep de tighter she hol' on to de high place," and preached a very edifying sermon which was highly appreciated by his congregation most of whom knew something about the roosting of chickens.

THE Richmond Dispatch prints a letter urging the Virginia legislature to pass a law protecting muskrats. The correspondent says that the muskrat is the greatest table delicacy known to the people of the Eastern Shore. An example of a victim to the habit of eating muskrats was cited to show what a hold this acquired taste has upon a man. "The late Samuel C. Taylor, famed for his good living, for many years was a pillar of the old Messengo Hardshell Baptist church in the northern part of Accomac. So strong was his liking for muskrat that when he was 83 years-old that he spent an entire Sunday in digging the wily little animals out of their holes on the banks Messengo Creek, for which he was summarily turned out of the church."

It looks very much as if the Armenians counted too much on the assistance of England and possibly America, and provoked the Moslems to deeds of retaliation, hoping that foreign intervention would come to their rescue. Sometimes it is better for people to bear the ills they have, stay in the frying pan and not jump into the fire so quickly.

THE Virginia foot-ball players explain that they did not intend to kill that Georgia man in the game. It was not a lynching.—Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph.

## Notions.

The year 1898 may be regarded as the centennial of the Democratic party. When the colonies were struggling for their independence, and trying to make the Fourth of July a fixture and an annual event, the common cause kept them contented, and uniform party procedure and opposition were unknown.

As the reader knows, George Washington had distinguished himself as an annihilator of British armies, and he was elected President, in 1789, receiving every vote cast. This was the case when he came to be re-elected. But the fashion of electing presidents unanimously ceased with the second election of Washington, never to be resumed. The vote is terribly divided these days, and either the plutocrats elect a president, or the farmers, socialists, anarchists, and ignorami. John Adams was elected president in 1797. Since the country had fallen into habits of peace, of course parties sprang up. Washington was a federalist, and very nearly all the rest of the plutocrats of that day. They were in power, and as long as Washington was in power he made them behave so well that they kept their majorities in both houses of Congress.

They ran a good deal to style, and generally took after their British cousins across the water. They had a deep and abiding distrust for country people, and being composed of the wealthier classes, they were very much afraid of being depreciated by revolutions. They were inclined to take the liberty of abridging the liberty of the people, and to the minds of a great many common people they were drifting back to monarchy, and the remembrance of that state of affairs was so recent that little wonder an opposition party started up, with Thomas Jefferson as "expounder."

It was known as the republican party, or democratic party. The terms were synonymous.

When the electoral vote was opened, in 1797, John Adams was elected by the federalists, and Jefferson had worked the wires so well that he slipped in ahead of Pinckney by securing a few federalist votes. Thus in 1797, by a fluke, Jefferson got himself elected vice-president by a gang of federalists who already hated him like poison.

One hundred years ago the United States were governed by federalists in power in every department, with the "expounder of democratic principles" as president of the Senate. In 1798, too, Andrew Jackson, another great Democrat, took his seat as Senator from Tennessee. It is our purpose, then, to briefly review the events of 1798, in this the hundredth year thereafter; and we believe it to be appropriate as the Jeffersonian party is struggling to right itself before the people and become again the dominant party, even tho it has the comparative unwieldiness of a party composed of the common people, who fear a party which has members who have the power and who make a business of legislating to some extent for number one.

The year of 1798 was a very significant one for the American republic. The federalists represented people who set a great deal of store by the Old World, and were inclined to use their power to restrain those who attacked their deeds or policy. They objected to the press criticizing their actions. The Congress wished to increase the extent of its jurisdiction over crimes, which the States had reserved almost entirely to themselves in the constitution.

There were two hundred newspapers in the United States in 1798, and 180 of these supported the federalists. Twenty were democratic-republican papers, and they did not hesitate to pour hot shot into plutocrats, who had their own opinions as to their power and dignity and who had brought themselves to believe that they were as nearly fixtures in governmental

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affairs as the peers of England. In the first Congress in 1798 they enacted a few laws by which they proposed to assert their power. The most obnoxious of these measures were those now generally termed the "alien and sedition laws."

We were in trouble with France at this time, and France had kicked our ambassadors out of doors and war was expected. The democratic-republican party had been blamed for the rupture with France, and some of its members of Congress did not attend the sittings of that body. Jefferson predicted that the federalists would now show the cloven hoof.

The passing of the 'alien and sedition' laws fulfilled Jefferson's predictions to the letter, and because of the encroachment upon the liberties of the people the federalists saw the sun sink on their long and triumphant reign, and the consequence was that after the next election the American citizen Thomas Jefferson rode unattended through the streets of Washington and hitched his horse to palings in front of the capitol, in studied simplicity. This is a most significant incident of history, and which becomes the founder and 'expounder' of a party which is destined to perpetuate the highest example of a republican form of government, by modestly remembering that the people are the people. But we have traveled too fast.

The law passed in 1798, which was the first nail driven in their political coffin by the federalists, was requiring a residence of fourteen years on the part of an emigrant before he could become a citizen. This was not bidding very high for the people the country needed to form the nation the United States was to become. The law respecting aliens made all such residing in the United States to be enrolled, to report periodically to certain officers, and to be exiled from the country at the pleasure of the president. This was a most kingly power. Should the alien refuse to go when the president told him, he would be guilty of a felony. It is well enough to note that in the two years of this law's existence it was not enforced in a single instance. There has been but one parallel of this act of congress, and that was the Lodge Force Bill of a few years since. The opposition to the "alien" law called it a British measure, which still continues as a word of reproach, directed at the Republican party now, strange to say. Great Britain is one of the finest governments the world ever saw. But what we mean by a "British measure" is one not suited to the temper of the people, which would deprive any law of its wholesomeness.

The "sedition law" belongs to the class of misrule which the Democratic party denounces to-day as "government by injunction." In the sedition law the congress sought to help the States out with their jurisdiction over criminals. It declared against unlawful combinations against the laws of the United States. The latter part of the sedition law "muzzled the press." It made it a crime to publish libels against the President or Congress, retarding the execution of laws and bringing them into contempt, and was punishable by a fine of not more than \$2,000, and imprisonment of not more than two years. This law was enforced in some instances, and the party

that passed it went into forced retirement at the next election. John Adams was hardly treated with common politeness the last few months of his tenure in office, and he left Washington in worse form even than Grover Cleveland.

Thus the Democratic party went into power because their opponents were hostile to the tenants of a people who were determined, against all precedent, to rule themselves. And we who are proud of the record of the Democratic party claim that it is the factor which has preserved the republic unto this day. That we are in harmony with Democratic principles, and that today, as in 1798, when the leaders were not in sympathy with the people but were doing all they could to defeat the ends for which the common people had successfully fought the Revolutionary war, we believe that "democracy is the hope of the nation."

Hear, then, the principles of democracy of which we boast. They are a hundred years old, but apply now as then:

Equal and exact justice to all men, of whatever state or persuasion, religious or political.

Peace, commerce, and honest friendship with all nations, entangling alliances with none.

The support of the state governments in all their rights, as the most competent administration for our domestic concerns, and the surest bulwark against anti-republican tendencies.

The preservation of the general government in its whole constitutional vigor, as the sheet-anchor of our peace at home, and safety abroad.

A jealous care of the right of election by the people, a mild and safe corrective of abuses which are lopped by the sword of revolution where peaceful remedies are unprovided.

Absolute acquiescence in the decisions of the majority, the vital principle of republics, from which there is no appeal but to force, the vital principle and immediate parent of despotism.

A well disciplined militia, our best reliance in peace, and for the first movements of war, till regulars may relieve them.

The supremacy of civil over the military authority.

Economy in the public expense that labor may be lightly burdened.

The honest payment of our debts and sacred preservation of the public faith.

Encouragement of agriculture, and of commerce as its handmaid.

The diffusion of information, and the arraignment of all abuses at the bar of public reason.

Freedom of religion.

Freedom of the press.

Freedom of person, under the protection of the habeas corpus.

Trial by juries impartially selected.

In conclusion, we wish to mention that Jefferson "set the first example of a president removing men from office because their political opinions differed from his own." If ever the Democratic party places a man in the chair we have no doubt he will follow Jefferson in this matter, instead of Cleveland. Why should the subordinates endure in office for a longer term than the head of all the departments?

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